

## Atlanta City Council District

2

Atlanta Downtown
Castleberry Hill
Centennial Neighborhood
Central Atlanta
Fourth Ward Neighbors Inc.
Herndon Homes Tenants
Home Park
Inman Park

Little Five Points Community Mechanicsville South Sweet Auburn

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## **PARKS**

**Bass Recreation Center** Central Park Findley Plaza Freedom Park Hardy Ivy Park Inman Park Trolley Barn J. Allen Couch Park J.D. Sims Recreational Center John Calhoun Park Margaret Mitchell Square M.L.K. Natatorium Morgan-Boulevard Park Parkway-Angier Park Parkway-Merrits Park Parkway-Wabash Park Pershing Point Park Renaissance Park Robert W. Woodruff Park Springvale Park



City Council District 2 is a diverse community of people that contains 11 neighborhoods and all or part of neighborhood planning units (NPUs) E, M and N. The District features some of Atlanta's oldest in-town communities, including the Old Fourth Ward and Inman Park, Atlanta's first suburb.

District 2 has the eighth highest park acreage among all districts. The average Council District contains slightly more than 297 acres; District 2 contains 177. However, the District is dominated by Freedom Park, which extends from the far side of Moreland Avenue to the King Center. This provides wonderful park access to the eastern potions of District 2. Unfortunately, there is only one small District 2 park north of North Avenue in dense, urban Midtown.

Since its inception, the Freedom Park Conservancy has been active with park improvements and programming, such as the successful 2005 Art in Freedom Park. Central Atlanta Progress and the downtown business community have embraced Woodruff Park. Community groups are active around Renaissance Park, Findley Plaza and Hardy Ivy Park. The Georgia Conservancy's Generation Green recently adopted Central Park, which is greatly needed.

The Atlanta BeltLine project will have a major impact on District 2. It will connect from Freedom Park, through Inman Park and the Old Fourth Ward, to DeKalb Avenue near the King Center MARTA station. The proposed North Avenue Park will be one of the BeltLine jewels, spanning dozens of acres and connecting City Hall East to Freedom Park. Creating and preserving this land as greenspace represents a final opportunity to create parks in what is a rapidly developing area of the City.



The quality of life of a great city is determined by the character of its public spaces, where residents meet, shop, do business, play or simply wander. Within the public realm, no area plays a more important role in our quality of life than parks and greenspace.

Each and every day, parks and greenspace improve Atlanta's quality of life. They clean the air, filter polluted water and help keep children off the street. Parks improve physical health, promote mental well-being and help children learn. Parks help reduce crime and strengthen the economy. Perhaps most importantly, parks unite neighbors, foster friendships and build community.

The City of Atlanta has 338 parks totaling 3570 acres. Atlanta's Park System is among the smallest park systems for a major American City. Among the nation's 25 largest cities, Atlanta has the smallest percentage of land dedicated to parks. The good news is that Atlanta has made significant investments in its park system in the last several years. The 2006 budget increased park funding by nearly \$3 million, a 10% increase. The BeltLine promises to add more than 1000 acres of new parks, and the City passed a three-year \$105 million bond for parks and greenspace. Given the commitment of the Mayor and Council, Atlanta's park future appears bright.

## FAST FACTS - DISTRICT 2

Number of Parks	28
Parks ≥ 1 Acre	8
Total Park Acres	177.16
Largest Park	Freedom
Playgrounds	6
Ballfields	2
Tennis Courts	4
Outdoor Basketball Courts	7
Recreation Centers	3